

LINDBERGH, CHARLES AUGUSTUS

kidnapping and murder of the couple's infant son resulted in their moving to Europe.

Anne Morrow Lindbergh is perhaps best known for two books. One is *Gift from the Sea* (1955), a collection of eight essays about the meaning of a woman's life. The other is *The Unicorn and Other Poems, 1935-1955* (1956). Some critics attacked this work as sentimental, but others defended it as sensitive and deeply felt.

Lindbergh was born in Englewood, N.J. Her father, Dwight W. Morrow, was a famous American diplomat. She became a licensed pilot and made many long flights with her husband. These trips furnished material for two of her books, *North to the Orient* (1935) and *Listen! The Wind* (1938). Lindbergh's other writings include *Dearly Beloved* (1962), a novel; and *Earth Shine* (1969), which consists of two essays.

EUGENE K. GARDER

See also LINDBERGH, CHARLES A.; MORROW, DWIGHT.

LINDBERGH, CHARLES AUGUSTUS (1902-1974), an American aviator, made the first solo nonstop flight across the Atlantic Ocean on May 20-21, 1927. Other pilots had crossed the Atlantic before him. But Lindbergh was the first person to do it alone nonstop.

Lindbergh's feat gained him immediate, international fame. The press named him "Lucky Lindy" and the "Lone Eagle." Americans and Europeans idolized the shy, slim young man and showered him with honors.

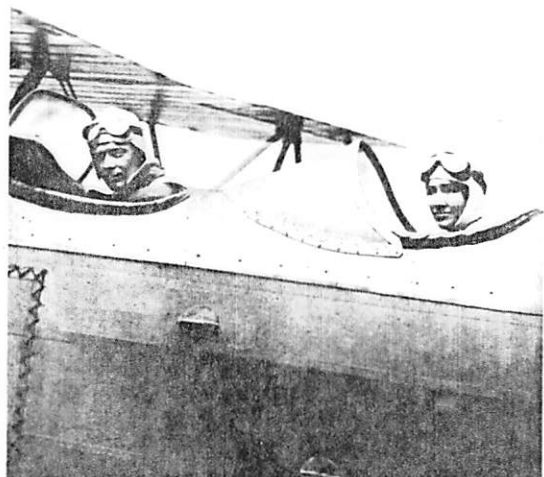
Before Japan attacked Pearl Harbor in 1941, Lindbergh campaigned against voluntary American involvement in World War II. Many Americans criticized him for his noninvolvement beliefs. After the war, he avoided publicity until the late 1960's, when he spoke out for the conservation of natural resources. Lindbergh served as an adviser in the aviation industry from the days of wood and wire airplanes to supersonic jets.

Early Life. Charles Augustus Lindbergh was born on Feb. 4, 1902, in Detroit. He grew up on a farm near Little Falls, Minn. He was the son of Charles Augustus Lindbergh, Sr., a lawyer, and his wife, Evangeline Land Lodge. Lindbergh's father served as a U.S. congressman from Minnesota from 1907 to 1917.

In childhood, Lindbergh showed exceptional mechanical ability. At the age of 18 years, he entered the University of Wisconsin to study engineering. However, Lindbergh was more interested in the exciting, young field of aviation than he was in school. After two years, he left school to become a *barnstormer*, a pilot who performed daredevil stunts at fairs.

In 1924, Lindbergh enlisted in the United States Army so that he could be trained as an Army Air Service Reserve pilot. In 1925, he graduated from the Army's flight-training school at Brooks and Kelly fields, near San Antonio, as the best pilot in his class. After Lindbergh completed his Army training, the Robertson Aircraft Corporation of St. Louis hired him to fly the mail between St. Louis and Chicago. He gained a reputation as a cautious and capable pilot.

His Historic Flight. In 1919, a New York City hotel owner named Raymond Orteig offered \$25,000 to the first aviator to fly nonstop from New York to Paris. Several pilots were killed or injured while competing for the Orteig prize. By 1927, it had still not been won. Lindbergh believed he could win it if he had the right airplane. He persuaded nine St. Louis businessmen to



Wide World

Charles A. Lindbergh and Anne Morrow Lindbergh flew throughout the world charting new routes for airlines. The famous aviator taught his wife to fly following their marriage in 1929.

help him finance the cost of a plane. Lindbergh chose Ryan Aeronautical Company of San Diego to manufacture a special plane, which he helped design. He named the plane the *Spirit of St. Louis*. On May 10-11, 1927, Lindbergh tested the plane by flying from San Diego to New York City, with an overnight stop in St. Louis. The flight took 20 hours 21 minutes, a transcontinental record.

On May 20, Lindbergh took off in the *Spirit of St. Louis* from Roosevelt Field, near New York City, at 7:52 A.M. He landed at Le Bourget Field, near Paris, on May 21 at 10:21 P.M. Paris time (5:21 P.M. New York time). Thousands of cheering people had gathered to meet him. He had flown more than 3,600 miles (5,790 kilometers) in 33½ hours.

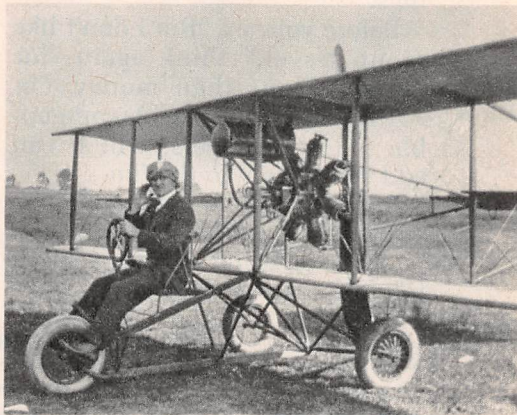
Lindbergh's heroic flight thrilled people throughout the world. He was honored with awards, celebrations, and parades. President Calvin Coolidge gave Lindbergh the Congressional Medal of Honor and the first Distinguished Flying Cross in American history.

In 1927, Lindbergh published *We*, a book about his transatlantic flight. The title referred to Lindbergh and his plane. Lindbergh flew throughout the United States to encourage air-mindedness on behalf of the Daniel Guggenheim Fund for the Promotion of Aeronautics. Lindbergh learned about the pioneer rocket research of Robert H. Goddard, a Clark University physics professor. Lindbergh persuaded the Guggenheim family to support Goddard's experiments, which later led to the development of missiles, satellites, and space travel. Lindbergh also worked for several airlines as a technical adviser.

Good-Will Ambassador. At the request of the U.S. government, Lindbergh flew to various Latin-American countries in December 1927 as a symbol of American good will. While in Mexico, he met Anne Spencer Morrow, the daughter of Dwight W. Morrow, the American ambassador there. Lindbergh married Anne Morrow in 1929. He taught her to fly, and they went on

BARNEY'S OPPONENT

Your recent article in the April-May issue of MODERN MATURITY on "The Unbeatable Barney Oldfield" is of particular interest to me. It says, "He even won when he raced



against an airplane." The pilot of the plane was Lincoln Beachey, and I enclose a photo from my Barney Oldfield album taken at the time of the race. Beachey was disqualified in the heat as he fudged on both 180-degree turns.

*Carl P. Heuck
Sun City, Ariz.*

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